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## The John Birch Society In a Word—'Ridiculous'

PERHAPS the Attorney General of the United States has come up with the shortest and best appraisal of the John Birch Society.

Others—United States Senators and representatives prominently among them—are demanding a full-scale congressional investigation and scorching the Birch Society in indignant oratory as a dictator-led, Nazi-like organization which poses a clear and present danger to democracy and the United States government.

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy was asked at his press conference this week for his opinion of this semi-secret, far-right outfit. This was his reply:

"Ridiculous."

With confidence in the reasoning and reasonable American people, we agree. Here is an organization founded in 1958 by the wealthy eccentric, Robert Weich, with the avowed purpose of fighting communism. It has a council and from what little is knewn, a membership perhaps best characterized by Senator Kuchel (R-Calif.) as many good but mistaken people and some others who are neither good nor mistaken."

THE BIRCHITES have a leader who is on record as accusing Presidents Eisenhower, Truman and Roosevelt of being Communist agents or dupes.

Welch has charged Dr. Milton Eisenhower, like's brother, and the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and his brather, Central intelligence Agency Chief Allen Dulles, with eing members of the Communist undergrothed,

He has charged other prominent Americans, Chief Justice Earl Warren and former Detense Secretary Nell McEtroy among them, of

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"Ridiculous" is indeed the right word

UNDER the banner of anti-communism, the Birch Society has preganized secret units on college campuses which carrying Australia of the same and other atudents who disagreed with them.

In various cities and states, the Birchites wage phone call, picketing, letter-writing and other harassing campaigns against any whom they may dub as "Communist." Even conservative Republican Senator Milton Young of North Dakota has complained that the society has accused him of "being about every kind of a scoundrel, including a Communist or pro-Communist."

Its leader and its members follow the premise that the ends justify the means and the only way to fight Communists to adopt Communist tactics.

WITH THE enthusiastic support of Southern segregationists the Birchites are now carrying on a letter-writing campaign in Congress, demanding the proceedings of Chief Justice Warren

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Approved For Release 2000704/19 He believes that "democracy is merely a